

INFORMATION REPORT

CD NO.

COUNTRY Germany (Russian Zone)  
SUBJECT Fulfilment of the Import Plan  
for the First Quarter of 1950

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SUPPLEMENT TO  
REPORT NO.

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THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

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25X1 [REDACTED]  
the import plan for 1950:

DDR's analysis of the fulfilment of

1. General

Completion of the plan by value, 16.7%. Completion of the plan by volume, 18.6%. (Equals plan price multiplied by quantity of imports.)

From a comparison between the completion of the plan by volume and by value, it is clear that it was possible to purchase imports at lower prices than were foreseen in the plan.

The inadequate fulfilment of the plan in the first quarter is due to the following reasons:

- a. The as yet incomplete agreement with the Soviet Union and Poland. Only goods which were of the utmost importance for the maintenance of our industrial production could be obtained without an agreement. The assistance of the Soviet Union and Poland which has been provided in this way must be particularly stressed.

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b. [REDACTED]

- c. Difficulties in obtaining foreign exchange for the importation of materials in short supply from capitalist countries.

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25X1 d. [REDACTED]

2. [REDACTED]

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- b. Rolled Steel. Although the volume of planned imports was almost reached during the first quarter, the allocation of supplies inside the DDR is still inadequate, since the allocation plan was issued at the beginning of 1950 only. For this reason, supply to the SAG's was given priority.

Difficulties in delivery will not be unavoidable during the second and third quarters unless the present position [redacted] 25X1 changes. It is impossible to obtain increased deliveries from the Soviet Union, since the increase of their quota from 150,000 tons to 200,000 tons has not been accepted. It would be desirable to obtain additional supplies from Poland but because of their planning their rolled steel production program six months in advance, we cannot expect deliveries before the end of the third quarter. Since it is unlikely that this loss can be made up by additional contracts with capitalist countries, [redacted] 25X1 because of politico-economic reasons and because of the lack of trade agreements, it is suggested that the government should attempt to overcome bureaucratic obstacles and obtain early deliveries from Poland.

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- c. Non-ferrous Metals. The fulfilment of the plan is inadequate. For political reasons, non-ferrous metals can be obtained only with great difficulty [redacted]

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[redacted] It may be expected that the second quarter will show an improvement as a result of current trade negotiations and negotiations which are about to be concluded.

- d. Chemicals. The inadequate fulfilment of the plan is due to payment difficulties in almost all currencies. In addition, deliveries [redacted] 25X1 [redacted] particularly of titanium dioxide and barium carbonate, were not according to plan. Bottlenecks in caustic soda, colophony, chromic acid, chromic anhydride and cyanide salts could be overcome. Deliveries of pharmaceuticals were much too inadequate and an improvement is essential. Many important barter contracts were unsuccessful because of excessive internal prices of our export goods. It is therefore desirable to review price levels and coefficients.

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- e. Mining. Although the global figure of 24% appears satisfactory, particular attention must be given to the difficulties in obtaining pyrites. It is possible on the basis of contracts already concluded that the arrears of the first quarter will have been made up by the end of the second quarter. The delivery of crude phosphates was inadequate. Difficulties arose from a shortage of dollars.

- f. Paper, Cellulose and Leather. Although a sufficient number of contracts for "Natronspinnpapier" have been concluded [redacted] 25X1 [redacted] 25X1

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[redacted] Raw hides and skins can at present be obtained for dollars and sterling only. [redacted]

- g. Miscellaneous. The import of natural rubber is hindered by payment difficulties. Arrears in wool will be made up in April and May. In the case of seed and fodder, planned imports for the whole year were almost reached. It appears, however, desirable that funds be made available for the import of seed in the fourth quarter rather than in the first, since more favorable prices can thereby be obtained and the delivery of goods in short supply during the first quarter can more easily be assured.

The import of tobacco is difficult because of the bad harvest in Bulgaria. Imports from capitalist countries are held up by foreign exchange difficulties.

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